

MINUTES
UTAH DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
UTAH WATER QUALITY BOARD MEETING

Cannon Health Building Room 125
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

June 21, 2002

9:30 a.m.

UTAH WATER QUALITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert G. Adams	Nan Bunker
Ray Child	John Cushing
Neil Kochenour	Dianne Nielson
KC Shaw	Bill Williams
J. Ann Wechsler	

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Don Ostler, Faye Bell, Jay Pitkin, JD McDonald, Shelly Quick, Mike Hanson, Fred Pehrson, Dan Hall, Julie Haslem, Kiran Bhayani, John Kennington, Walt Baker

OTHERS PRESENT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization Representing</u>
Fred Nelson	Attorney Generals Office
Renee Eddy	Citizen's Advocate
Chuck Eddy	Citizen's Advocate
Robert L. Larsen	Citizen's Advocate
Jean M. Larsen	Citizen's Advocate
Sharon Walters	Daggett County Commission
Sean Hughes	Town of Manila
Allison Morgan	Division of Water Resources
Steve Anderson	West Haven/Hansen, Allen & Luce
Robert Holmes	West Haven
Mike Lowe	UGS
Brad Rasmussen	Aqua Engineering
Scott Wilson	Central Iron County Water Conservancy
Claire Adams	Visitor
Tyler Adams	Visitor
Kjersten Adams	Visitor
Jon Adams	SLC Corp/Certification Council
Reed Fisher	Central Valley WRF

Chairman Shaw called the Board meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. He welcomed those in attendance and invited the members of the audience to introduce themselves.

An award was presented to Mayor John Cushing who has recently resigned from the Water Quality Board thanking him for his service as a member of the Water Quality Board for the past four years

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 17, 2002 MEETING

Ms. Wechsler noted on page 3, second paragraph, fifth line down an “s” needed to be inserted to the word requested. Also on page 4, 3rd paragraph down the word “ensure” was misspelled. Mr. Baker also pointed out that on page 4 in the Parowan Action Item, the amount should read \$2,873,000 not, \$2,73,000.

Action Taken: It was moved by Ms. Bunker, seconded by Ms. Wechsler and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2002 meeting with the noted changes. Mayor John Cushing abstained from voting, since he was not at the previous Board meeting.

LOAN PROGRAM

Financial Assistance Status Report – Mr. Baker distributed to the Board the “Summary of Assistance Program Funds” and provided an update on the status.

Daggett County (ACTION ITEM) – Mr. Kennington introduced Sharon Walters from the Daggett County Commission, Sean Hughes from the Town of Manila and Brad Rasmussen from Aqua Engineering. Daggett County is requesting \$490,000 in financial assistance to be combined with a \$50,000 grant from the Community Impact Board to finance a sewer pipeline to replace the failing on-site septic tank drainfield system at the Daggett County Jail.

Mr. Kennington stated that last month the Board had approved a loan of \$323,000 for construction of a sewage lagoon to serve the jail. During the May 17th meeting the Board suggested Daggett County and the Town of Manila explore other alternatives in meeting the jail’s sewer needs that would be more beneficial to the entire area. In the feasibility report, alternative 3 is the result of that work. This alternative consists of constructing a 75% gravity/25% pressure sewer line extending from the jail to the Manila’s collection system. Staff qualified its recommendation of this alternative due to the higher cost. This project would have an overall cost of \$540,000 which the Board could fund with a \$148,000 loan and a \$342,000 grant. Mr. Kennington referred to a memo enclosed in the Board packet that explains the project. Commissioner Walters stated that following the last Board meeting she went back to the other commissioners and they agreed that a sewer line to Manila is preferable to a jail-only lagoon with respect to the long-range needs of the area, in spite of the higher cost. Mr. Hughes agreed it would be better to have one sewer system if possible. Mr. Williams asked for a better understanding as to why the Town is opposed to the pressure sewer system. Mr. Kennington said the Town was concerned about the mechanical complexity and the potential of backing sewage up into homes.

Mr. Baker summarized the discussions that had occurred with the Town and County since the May 17th Board meeting. He said there are three main issues that must be resolved in order to implement a sewer line alternative: 1) the number of ERUs represented by the jail must be established to the satisfaction of both parties; 2) the pressure/gravity configuration of the sewer line must be agreed to; and 3) the capacity taken up by the jail in the Town’s lagoon system must be addressed. Mr. Shaw noted that the least-costly alternative, a \$290,000 pressure sewer line, was rejected by the Town even though this technology is commonly used throughout the country. The jail-only alternative, which is estimated to cost \$373,000, was authorized funding by the Board at its May 17th meeting. The County will pay the same cost for sewer service regardless of the alternative that is ultimately implemented. For this to occur the Board would cover the increased costs of a more expensive alternative with grant funds. Mr. Shaw questioned why the Board should consider funding any alternative more expensive than the least-costly practicable solution, which is the pressure sewer. He also questioned the basis of the Town being able to stop the building of a properly-sited and constructed lagoon. He requested that the Town and County

get together and reconsider the mutual benefits of a sewer line project. Mr. Shaw suggested the Board direct staff to write a letter to Manila Town and Daggett County to express the Board's sentiments.

Action Taken: Dr. Kochenour moved that the Board direct the Executive Secretary to write a letter to the County and Town indicating that while the jail-only lagoon alternative has been authorized funding, the Board would consider authorizing funding for a sewer line alternative. However, the Board is not interested in doing so if the cost of this alternative cannot be significantly reduced below the \$540,000 cost of a 75% gravity/25% pressure line that also would include a \$7,500 per year assessment by the Town to the County. This motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and unanimously carried.

Mr. Ostler and Dr. Nielson suggested, due to time constraints on building before winter, that if the Town and County were to arrive at an agreement, it would be possible for the Board to hold a teleconference to authorize funding for an acceptable alternative.

West Haven SSD (ACTION ITEM) – Mr. McDonald introduced Mr. Holmes, Chairman of the West Haven Sewer District and Mr. Anderson, the District's engineer. West Haven Special Service District (WHSSD) is requesting a loan of \$880,000 to complete its sewer collection system project. WHSSD is approximately 80% complete with the construction of the City-wide wastewater collection system. WHSSD has experienced various cost over-runs during the project. These include costs due to delays in starting the construction, changes being made to the requirements after the project was already bid, substantial import backfill due to poor soil conditions and increases in the quantity of foundation stabilization material required due to higher ground water conditions than anticipated. Mr. Holmes stated he felt this additional funding would enable the project to be completed.

Mr. Chuck Eddy from the *Citizens Advocate* distributed a letter that he said represents the feelings of residents from the unincorporated area of western Weber County. He stated when the boundaries were decided for West Haven SSD, the interceptor sewer to serve the District was constructed through unincorporated areas. He expressed his displeasure that those in the unincorporated areas of the County who did not elect to have the sewer are being required to connect to it by virtue of a loan condition imposed by the Water Quality Board. He feels the will of the people is not being heard in this regard. Mr. Robert Larsen said he understood that there should not have been state money available until all easements were in, but at least one easement was not in place in West Weber when the project started. Also, he understood that West Haven used money that hadn't been appropriated for that project to get it started before the loan was received. Mr. Shaw asked Mr. Eddy if there were any comments directly related to the proposal before the Board today. Mr. Eddy responded that the group he represents is asking that the Board not put any more funding into constructing additional sewer lines in the unincorporated areas of West Weber County.

Action Taken: It was moved by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried to authorize a \$880,000, 0% interest 30-year loan to the West Haven Special Service District, as recommended by staff. Ms. Wechsler abstained from voting, since she was uncomfortable with the history of the project. She expressed her appreciation to the county citizens for coming to this meeting

RULE CHANGES

Adoption of R317-10, Administrative Rules for Certification of Wastewater Works Operators: (ACTION ITEM) Mr. Jon Adams, chairman of the Wastewater Operator Certification Council, recommended the final adoption of changes to the rule as stated on Page 3.1 of the Board packet.

Action Taken: It was moved by Dr. Kochenour, seconded Mr. Childs and unanimously carried to adopt the rules as requested by staff.

Adoption of R317-100, Administrative Rules for Utah State Project Priority System: (ACTION ITEM): Ms. Quick directed the Board to Page 3.28. She requested Board adoption of the revised Project Priority System. No public comments were received.

Action Taken: It was moved by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mayor Cushing and unanimously carried to adopt the rules as requested by staff.

Adoption of FY 2003 SRF Intended Use Plan: (ACTION ITEM): Mr. Baker directed the Board to Page 3.35 of the FY 2003 SRF Intended Use Plan. The public comment period ended on June 15th and there were no comments.

Action Taken: It was moved by Dr. Kochenour, seconded by Mr. Adams and unanimously carried to adopt the FY 2003 SRF Intended Use Plan as requested by staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

Petition to classify the aquifer in the Cedar Valley: (ACTION ITEM): Mr. Hall introduced Mr. Scott Wilson from Central Iron County Water Conservancy District. Mr. Wilson explained that Cedar Valley has experienced rapid growth and expansion beyond the traditional family farm to industrial uses. These types of issues put pressure on preserving ground water quality. Recently the Cedar Valley has had a rural history, but with the rapid growth they have experienced rapid urbanization. The County now has a regional planner and they feel the Ground Water Classifications would be an additional tool to solve their own problems.

Action Taken: It was moved by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mayor Cushing and Ms. Bunker, and unanimously carried to authorize the staff to initiate public comment on the proposal.

Report on On-Site System Certification: Mr. Hanson referred the Board to pages 4.4 and 4.5 of the packet reviewing the status of the Onsite Wastewater Certification Program.

NEXT MEETING

The next Water Quality Board meeting will be held on August 2nd in the Cannon Building, Room 114 at 9:30 a.m.

K. C. Shaw, Chairman